Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Presently Amended) A switch to be mounted on a design element in the passenger room of a motor vehicle, comprising:

a haptic element having a base body~~,~~ comprising a socket zone, and at least one mechanical operating element movable relative to the base body; and

a flexible conductor having a reinforced supporting zone with a plurality of electrically conductive ~~electric and/or electronic~~ switch elements mounted on the supporting zone of the flexible conductor~~, and a zone supporting the switch elements~~,

wherein the haptic element comprises an actuator connected to the operating element, wherein the actuator actuates ~~acts on~~ at least one of the plurality of switch ~~element~~ elements when the operating element is actuated, and

wherein the supporting zone of the flexible conductor and ~~an associated~~ the socket zone of the haptic element are configured so that they are positioned and fixed relative to each other without establishing a permanent electrical conductive connection between the flexible conductor and the haptic element, and wherein the socket zone of the haptic element receives the switch elements ~~such that the base body and the operating element receive the switch elements~~, and

wherein when the socket zone receives the switch elements, the switch elements enter into an active connection

with the actuator of the operating element so that a switch signal is triggered by the actuator acting on the switch elements during actuation of the operating element ~~by means of the switch elements~~.

2. (Presently Amended) The switch according to claim 1 wherein the actuator is an electrical conductor ~~haptic element cannot be brought into electrically conductive connection with at least one of the switch elements~~.

3. (Presently Amended) The switch according to claim 1 wherein the actuator is an electrical bridge ~~haptic element has no electrically conductive component parts which can be coupled electrically with at least one of the switch elements~~.

4. (Presently Amended) The switch according to claim 1 wherein the haptic element can only be brought into electrically conductive connection by the actuator with at least one of the switch elements by actuating the operating element of the haptic element.

5. (Presently Amended) The switch according to claim 4 wherein the electrically conductive connection ~~only~~ exists ~~for as long as the switch is in a switching state, established by actuating~~ when the operating element is activated and does not exist when the operating element is not activated.

6. (Presently Amended) The switch according to claim 1, wherein the haptic element has no electrical structural elements apart from the actuator, which is formed as an electrical conductor.

7. (Presently Amended) The switch according to claim 1, wherein the actuator of the haptic element has as a single electrically conductive component which can be coupled electrically with at least one of the switch elements which is a contact bridge with which an electrical connection can be established between two switch elements.

8. (Previously Presented) The switch according to claim 1, wherein the zones of the conductor and the haptic element are formed as mechanical plug connectors and wherein the base body of the haptic element includes the socket zone with which the zone of the flexible conductor for supporting the switch elements is brought into positive engagement.

9. (Previously Presented) The switch according to claim 8 wherein the zone of the flexible conductor for supporting the switch elements has a mechanical reinforcement element.

10. (Previously Presented) The switch according to claim 9 wherein the mechanical reinforcement element is formed as one of a frame around the edges of the conductor, a plate attached to a back surface of the conductor and a cast element attached in surrounding relation to the connector.

11. (Previously Presented) The switch according to claim 9 wherein the mechanical reinforcement element has at least one detent element for securing the insert position in respect of the haptic element and/or means for sealing the plug zone against damp.

12. (Previously Presented) The switch according to claim 1 wherein the zones of the conductor and haptic element are formed as clamp-fit connections wherein the base body of the haptic element includes the socket zone and a fixing element connectable therewith so that the zone of the flexible conductor for supporting the switch elements can be clamped between the socket of the haptic element and the fixing element.

13. (Previously Presented) The switch according to claim 12 wherein the fixing element is connected in one piece with the base body of the haptic element through a film hinge and wherein the fixing element and the base body are each composed of a plastic material.

14. (Previously Presented) The switch according to claim 12 wherein the fixing element and the base body of the haptic element are separate component parts and wherein the fixing element is formed as a clamping plate.

15. (Previously Presented) The switch according to claim 12 further comprising means for positioning the zone of the

flexible conductor for supporting the switch elements relative to the base body of the haptic element.

16. (Previously Presented) The switch according to claim 15 wherein the means for positioning the zone of the conductor are formed on the conductor in the form of at least one recess and on the base body of the haptic element in the form of corresponding studs.

17. (Presently Amended) The switch according to claim 1 wherein the switch elements provided on the flexible conductor are formed as electrical contact faces which are allocated the actuator, formed as an electrical contact bridge which is connected to the operating element of the haptic element and which when the operating element is actuated closes an electrical circuit connected to at least one of the switch elements.

18. (Previously Presented) The switch according to claim 1 wherein the switch elements provided on the flexible conductor are provided in boxes, in the form of SMD switches or switch mats.

19. (Previously Presented) The switch according to claim 1 wherein the switch elements provided on the flexible conductor are designed as magneto-resistive structural elements which are each allocated a permanent magnet which is connected to an actuating element of the haptic element.

20. (Previously Presented) The switch according to claim 1 wherein the switch elements provided on the flexible conductor are formed as inductive or capacitive close range approach switches.

21. (Previously Presented) The switch according to claim 1, wherein the switch elements provided on the flexible conductor are formed as transponder readers.

22. (Presently Amended) The switch according to claim 1 wherein the switch elements provided on the flexible conductor are formed as passive or active optical elements allocated the actuator on the operating element of the haptic element formed as means for reflection for the purpose of establishing a visual transmission path or means for interrupting a visual transmission path.

23. (Previously Presented) The switch according to claim 1 further comprising an optical element for illuminating the switch, a micro controller, resistances, and diodes mounted on the zone of the flexible conductor for supporting the switch elements.

24. (Previously Presented) The switch according to claim 1 wherein the zone of the conductor for supporting the switch elements is detachably connected to the haptic element.

25. (Previously Presented) The switch according to claim 1 wherein the switch has, in addition to the switch elements, further electrical and/or electronic structural elements.

26. (Previously Presented) The switch according to claim 1 wherein the zone of the haptic element associated with the switch elements forms at least one operating element of the haptic element.

27. (New) A switch to be mounted on a design element in the passenger room of a motor vehicle, comprising:

a haptic element having a base body comprising a socket zone, and at least one mechanical operating element movable within the socket zone, wherein an electrically conductive actuator is attached to the at least one mechanical operating element;

a flexible conductor having a reinforced supporting zone; and

a plurality of electrically conductive switch elements mounted on the supporting zone of the flexible conductor;

wherein the socket zone of the haptic element receives the supporting zone of the flexible conductor, such that the socket zone and the supporting zone are fixed relative to each other without establishing a permanent electrical conductive connection between the flexible conductor and the haptic element;

wherein a movement of the at least one mechanical operating element into the socket zone causes the electrically

conductive actuator to contact and electrically activate at least one of the plurality of electrically conductive switch elements.